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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 03-12

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Establishment of Regular Maritime Industry Office Hours

As Captain of the Port (COTP) and Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection (OCMI), I am responsible for directing and coordinating Coast Guard activities throughout Western Alaska; including maritime safety and security and environmental protection. The maritime industry in Western Alaska is one of the most unique and dynamic segments in the country, with ships and mariners routinely operating in some of the harshest and most demanding environments encountered anywhere. Additionally, Western Alaska and the Arctic are witnessing expanded growth and change, requiring careful risk management, innovative teamwork, and a constant focus on safety and prevention.

Effective teamwork is one of the key drivers to successfully manage growth and change and I am committed to maintaining open communications with all stakeholders in an effort to collaboratively maintain a responsive and open approach towards the safety and security of ships and cargoes entering our ports, security of the port areas, and protection of the marine environment. As I have visited many of our port stakeholders, I recognize how busy we all are; making personal meetings near impossible. I have set aside time to help facilitate communication and ensure my availability, as operations allow, to members of the maritime industry; Maritime Industry Office Hours are from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at Sector Anchorage on each Thursday of the week. Please contact Mr. Dave Welch at (907) 271-6956 to schedule a specific block of time for your visit.

Please do not hesitate to use this opportunity to discuss your concerns, challenges, or simply to have a cup of coffee and let me know how we are doing. I look forward to meeting with anyone who wishes to stop by.

Sincerely,

PAUL MEHLER III

Captain, U. S. Coast Guard

Captain of the Port, Western Alaska